



The Ordnance Corps Quarterly

U.S. Army Combined Arms Support Command

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Chief's Corner

Optimizing Ordnance Soldier Human Performance!

This is the topic I wish to explore with all of our awesome Ordnance Professionals - 91,000 Army Strong.

Over nearly nine months as the Chief of Ordnance and Commandant of the Ordnance School, I've had the privilege to observe Ordnance Soldiers and leaders in action across the United States, flat getting after the war-fighting skills that are crucial to build and sustain Army readiness.

As an Army in preparation, we know it's only a matter of time before something bad happens in the world that will threaten the safety of our people and the preservation of our way of life. When danger lurks, the American people will call on the use of all our military might as an instrument of National power, to protect what we so dearly love... freedom.

As outlined in the U.S. Army's **Human Dimension White Paper, A Framework for Optimizing Human Performance**, our institution seeks to invest in that which we value most – our People. That investment must include Soldier and civilian education, tough, realistic training, the development of our leaders at every stage of their careers, and promotion of good health and overall fitness. We must also invest in the proper management of talent by placing the right Soldier, with the right skills, at the right time, in the right place to make a readiness difference.

So, I challenge every leader to **start the conversation** and **ask the tough questions**. How do we prepare our men and women to adapt to the unknown threats of the future? How do we prepare our Soldiers cognitively, physically and emotionally to win in a complex world?

As I learned years ago at the Army's

War College, **an adversary's power to RESIST is equal to their WILL times their MEANS to resist**. The U.S. often possesses the overwhelming MEANS to fight future enemies, but we must optimize every U.S. Soldier's performance. We must develop warfighters who can defeat both the MEANS and the WILL of our enemies. This is the human dimension strategy end-state: Soldiers who over-match our enemies in future conflict, out-performing and out-thinking anyone we go up against, so that we always win in the clash of wills.

Optimizing a Soldier's **cognitive performance** (their brainpower) means teaching them to THINK critically and creatively under harsh and stressful conditions. We must condition them to think through complex problems and come up with innovative solutions. Optimized Soldiers have the WILL and the MEANS to adapt, survive, fight and win in the *nastiest* of austere environments. They thrive in the realm of the 'unknown,' and truly possess the expeditionary mindset.

Optimizing a Soldier's **physical performance** means conditioning them in the same way athletes prepare for a pentathlon. Success depends on tough, realistic and demanding training that challenges them on multiple

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Left: Army Allied Trade Specialist uses rebar to create a culvert denial system at a Forward Operating Base in Logar Province, Afghanistan.



Above: Ordnance Maintainers work to repair a ball joint on a Mine Resistant, Ambush Protected All Terrain Vehicle in northern Afghanistan.



Chief's Corner



Ordnance Maintainers inspect the transmission from an unserviceable Heavy Equipment Transport System engine in a motor pool on Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan.

plains. We must optimize their physical performance through a balanced approach of smart physical fitness, proper sleep, healthy nutrition and wholesome lifestyles. Like all successful athletes, our Soldiers must practice doing the right thing every day to maintain their highest levels of personal and professional readiness. And on the day of the 'big event,' they will surely perform to the highest standards, even when injured, to ensure the Nation wins. Failure is not an option in our business; as an Ordnance BOLC class motto recently reminded me, "If you aren't first, you're last."

With leaders who know how to optimize their Soldier's cognitive and physical performance, we can amplify the WILL and the MEANS to always be first - and our Nation will be eternally grateful for our service.

Our Ordnance professionals – optimized through high performance - make us **Ordnance Strong**.

Go Ordnance!

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Kurt Ryan

Brigadier General, U.S. Army



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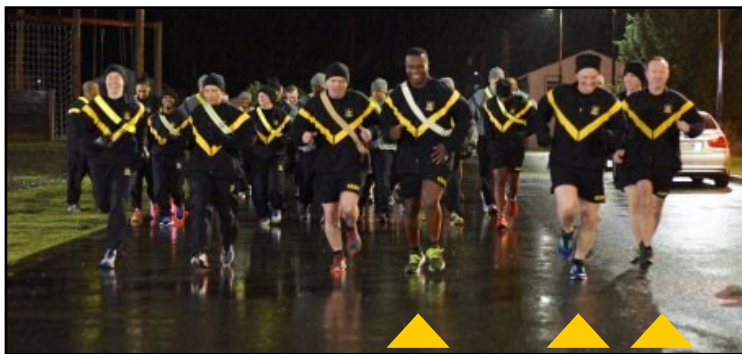
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← Regimental Command Sergeant Major Highlights

The Human Dimension – an NCO’s Perspective. Greetings, Team Ordnance! Since I spoke with you last, I have visited several of our great organizations. Every visit confirms my deep conviction that **the Army’s most valuable asset** is not our technology, or our materiel capabilities – it’s **our troops**. I’m not the only one who thinks so! The Army is also focused on developing its most agile and adaptive resource – its warfighters. With this in mind, the Army’s **Human Dimension Strategy** lays out a plan for optimizing individual potential and building cohesive teams that can thrive in chaos and ambiguity. This is not just ‘Officer Business.’ As NCOs, and aspiring NCOs, we all play a crucial role in implementing this strategy. Because we are closest to our Soldiers, we have the greatest ability to help our troops reach their fullest potential.

NCOs have always been committed to developing their troops’ technical/tactical skills and ensuring their physical fitness. But more recently, we’ve extended that commitment to support our Soldiers’ **total fitness** (mental, emotional and physical). Over a decade of deployments taught us that **resiliency** is as important to the warfighter’s success as **strength** and **skill**. We also learned that an expeditionary Army puts increased demands on **cultural**



Regimental CSM Edward Morris (center) participated in a senior leader physical training session with the 593rd Expeditionary Sustainment Command at Joint Base Lewis-McChord on 19 February 2016. Brig. Gen. Jack Haley and Brig. Gen. Kurt Ryan, 38th and 39th Chiefs of Ordnance, setting the pace at the far right of the photo.

awareness and commitment to **ethical standards**.

Reaching across cultures, treating others with dignity and respect, adhering to our professional standards and making ethical choices in increasingly ambiguous circumstances are all qualities that are modeled, taught and enforced by outstanding NCOs. Instilling these qualities in our young Soldiers is crucial for mission success. It’s also essential to maintain our reputation as Professionals under the national and global spotlight.

Outstanding NCOs give their troops opportunities to take informed risks and grow their **critical-thinking and decision making** skills. They discover and develop the unique talents and abilities of their troops by presenting them with realistic (and truly challenging) training scenarios. For example, I recently participated in a

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CSM Edward Morris and members of the Ordnance Command Team observe catastrophic recovery operations at Regional Training Site Maintenance, Camp Roberts, California. Camp Roberts is assisting with redeveloping Module C of the ASI H8 Recovery Course.



RCSM Highlights

Continued from page 3

Senior CSM/SGM Adaptive Leader workshop conducted by the Asymmetric Warfare Group (AWG) at Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia. The purpose of the workshop was to review realistic training using Mission Command, Marksmanship and Range Operations. And in keeping with **asymmetric training techniques**, we conducted a range operation - *without a range detail!* No Range OIC, no Tower NCO, no Safety NCOs, no focus on PowerPoint. What we did do is discuss over an over how to set the condition and build muscle memory as part of our dry run. WE made the proper adjustment on the targets and sight adjustment on our weapons NOT a safety NCO. We didn't place our weapons on a stake. There was no reason for a Tower NCOIC to tell us to cease fire, drop the magazine, and so on. WE preformed SPORTS... no reason for alibi firers. Every unit should TRAIN and TRUST Soldier to be critical thinkers, allowing Soldiers to correct themselves using this concept. This is a very effective way to empower Soldiers to exercise Mission Command and to train them to their fullest potential.

The **Asymmetric Warfare Group** is a unit of highly trained warriors who provide rapid training and nonmaterial solutions and strategies to negate enemy strengths while exploiting their weaknesses. Learn more about the Asymmetric Warfare Group at their [website](#).

Finally, NCOs will continue to be instrumental in building and leading cohesive teams of trusted professionals that hold together under increasingly austere and uncertain conditions. This applies primarily to the warfighters in our formations, but has implications beyond that. As NCOs, we know the strength of our Army depends on the strength of our *entire* team. Our families are an important part of the Army team and so are our DA Civilians. Their resiliency adds to the strength of our Army. Don't underestimate the positive impact you can have on the bigger team by sharing tools and resources. (I have provided some links for you below.)



CSM Morris recently met with NCOs stationed at the Joint Multinational Training Command in Grafenwohr, Germany. The NCOs listened intently as CSM Morris talked about force reduction, NCO Development, and the Army's need for agile and adaptive leaders to win in a complex environment.

In summary, NCOs are in a unique position to implement the **Human Dimension Strategy**. They have the experience and close proximity necessary to build the *total fitness* their Soldiers need to meet the demands of an expeditionary Army in a complex world. NCOs must continue to lead themselves first and their Soldiers second in developing *critical thinking* skills, in increasing *cultural awareness*, and holding to *ethical standards* that will guide them in ambiguous and complex situations. My hat's off to all of our committed Ordnance NCOs who develop, coach and mentor Soldiers to achieve their highest potential for success in the future. **Go Ordnance!**

CSM Edward C. Morris
12th Regimental Command Sergeant Major

Three programs currently available to assist leaders in optimizing their potential and that of their troops and even family members:

- ♦ Master Fitness Trainer (MFT) Program
- ♦ [Comprehensive Soldier and Family Fitness \(CSF2\)](#)
- ♦ Community Health Promotion Council (CHPC)

For more resources visit the Army's [Ready and Resilient](#) website.



Regimental Chief Warrant Officer Highlights

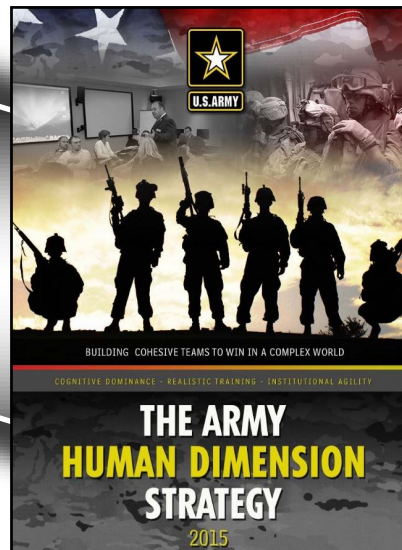


Over the last couple of years the Army's Human Dimension Strategy has received a lot of attention and rightfully so. The strategy itself is a coordinated effort to optimize performance and effectively prepare leaders for the ambiguity and chaos

of conflict. This is an extremely important undertaking when you consider the centerpiece of the Army - its people. Think about that for a second. Remove technological capability, and some businesses would utterly fail... Microsoft and Apple come to mind. That's not the case with the Army. Remove technology and you still have people deeply committed to the defense of this great nation. Even with the greatest technology in the world, we still require unwavering commitment by our Soldiers and leaders to successfully execute unified land operations. When satellites are down, connectivity lost, and equipment breaks, we rely on agile and innovative leaders who can adapt and thrive in uncertain and constantly changing operating environments. From delivering precision fires to fixing bayonets, the American Soldier is prepared to execute the strategic objectives of the United States of America. The resolve of our Soldiers and leaders is unmatched by any other fighting force.

Our leader development and talent management processes must continuously evolve to ensure we retain a distinct competitive advantage over our adversaries. The [Human Dimension Strategy](#) identifies cognitive dominance, realistic training, and institutional agility as the lines of effort for building "an Army of cohesive teams of trusted professionals who thrive and win in a complex world." More than a decade of conflict taught us that we must be prepared for what General Perkins calls "the unknown, unknowable, ever changing operating environment" of the future. Ordnance warrant officers must recognize their role in the human dimension strategy as trusted professionals and

members of cohesive teams. Rather than focusing on all three lines of effort allow me to focus on one aspect of the Human Dimension Strategy - Cognitive Dominance.



Cognitive Dominance

NOTE: Per HQ DA EXORD 086-16, Line of Effort #1 - "Cognitive Dominance" has been changed to "Agile and Adaptive Leaders." Human Dimension Strategy publications will be updated at a later date.

Within the Army human dimension framework, cognitive dominance is defined as "a position of intellectual advantage over a situation or adversary that fosters **proactive agility** over reactive adaption, facilitating the ability to anticipate change before it occurs." *Some of you are probably thinking it takes cognitive dominance to decipher the definition!* I appreciate the angle and direction the strategy outlines for cognitive dominance, but allow me to present a slightly different approach to cognitive dominance and the Ordnance warrant officer's responsibility.

Ordnance warrant officers must possess cognitive dominance including superior critical thinking and problem solving skills. The Army of today and tomorrow demands this of its Soldiers, leaders and warrant officers as technical experts. I am a big fan of the '**intellectual advantage over a situation**' aspect of the definition because I wholeheartedly believe that Ordnance warrant officers must possess and

Continued on page 6, see "RCWO Highlights



RCWO Highlights

Continued from page 5

apply that advantage on a daily basis to ensure we effectively build and sustain readiness. *When I hear 'intellectual advantage,' I think 'United States Army Warrant Officer.'* Seriously, there should be no question that, as a warrant officer, I provide my boss an intellectual advantage in my area of expertise. It's why warrant officers exist. If you are not providing your commander an unprecedented level of expertise, then I challenge you to dig deep and put in the necessary work to master your craft.

Ordnance warrant officers must be agile, adaptive, ethical leaders who employ the fundamentals of their expertise in a complex environment. To truly thrive in such an environment, I challenge each of you to read the [National Security Strategy](#), [National Military Strategy](#), and the [Army Posture Statement](#) to understand the strategic complexities we face and objectives we are chartered to accomplish. Take personal responsibility for your development and pursue opportunities to enhance the thinking, reasoning, and decision making skills that support cognitive dominance. The Army - and more specifically your Soldiers - deserve it.

Go Ordnance!

CW5 Richard C. Myers, Jr.
9th Regimental Chief Warrant Officer



Technical expert hard at work. Above an Ordnance warrant officer is repairing a High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS) Wiring Harness. Those who can, DO!

PROACTIVE AGILITY IS...

- ◇ using intellectual advantage (expertise) to establish proactive processes that offer commanders the flexibility to operate in any situation
- ◇ maintaining shop stock IAW Army Regulations that clearly supports the fleet to ensure sustained readiness in the fog of war
- ◇ maintaining proper accountability of ammunition stocks and requisitioning shortages before reaching zero balance
- ◇ establishing a quality control process that efficiently and effectively validates the readiness of every piece of equipment before Soldiers use it
- ◇ establishing maintenance procedures that are regulatory correct and enhance the commander's ability to execute assigned missions successfully
- ◇ accurately forecasting supplies
- ◇ being prepared for the uncertainty of unified land operations and having the foresight and intellectual capacity to change on the go
- ◇ ensuring every Soldier under your leadership is prepared to execute their MOS to the highest level of proficiency
- ◇ expecting the unexpected and ensuring that when the opportunity presents itself you are prepared to close, kill and destroy the enemy
- ◇ in every case, understanding the commander's intent; thinking through facts and assumptions, implied and specified tasks; and establishing legally, ethically, and morally correct processes that support successful mission accomplishment



Custom training program enhances Ordnance maintenance skills

The **Unit Diagnostics Immersion Program (UDIP)** is a diagnostics-centric, train-the-trainer program that inculcates fault isolation, troubleshooting and first time proper repair for four of the Ordnance Corps Military Occupational Specialties (MOS). These MOSs are: 91A Abrams Tank Systems Maintainer, 91M Bradley Fighting Vehicle Systems Maintainer, 91P Self-Propelled Artillery Systems Maintainer, and 91S Stryker Systems Maintainer.

These select personnel are immersed in two weeks of extremely difficult training that focuses on the understanding of enhanced diagnostics, repair, and verification for their specific platforms. Soldiers must have a basic knowledge of principles of operation prior to attending the course as well as the willingness to set aside any preconceived notions of a level of expertise provided through Mobile Training Team from the Ordnance School.



Bradley Fighting Vehicle System Maintainers (91M) listen as a UDIP Instructor explains proper procedures for troubleshooting a Fire Control Sensor (FSC) on a Bradley turret.

The class demographics range from E-3 through E-7. At times during the training, there may be concepts and

procedures that the E-3 understands better than a much more experienced E-6. The senior Noncommissioned Officers (NCO) learn to put aside their egos and the perception that they know more than the privates.

The UDIP was developed to mentally challenge the maintainers and to get them to think outside the scope of the work-package troubleshooting tree that normally is found in interactive electronic technical manuals. This approach supports one of the key tenets of The Army Human Dimension Strategy 2015, which states that we must "optimize the performance of our diverse talent through better assessment of individual potential and more customized learning programs."

UDIP is currently scheduled for Fort Carson, Fort Hood, Joint Base Lewis-McChord (91S only) and Vilseck, Germany. The UDIP will likely continue through FY17 until a longer-term solution to integrate this training into enduring NCO Advanced Leader Courses is achieved.

CW5 Alex Taylor
Professional Development Office,
USAODS

Ordnance Birthday

Celebration

May 11-13, 2016

at the

'Home of Ordnance'

Fort Lee, Virginia

Schedule of Events:

11 May – Ordnance Hall of Fame Events

Hall of Fame details and registration [here](#)

12 May – Ordnance Corps Association

Golf Tournament*

Details and registration [here](#)

*Does not imply endorsement by any U.S. Army organization

13 May – Ordnance Run and Ordnance Ball

OD Ball details and registration [here](#)

You're
invited!



Validation of OD physical demands for optimized performance

Greetings from the Ordnance Personnel Development Office! The Ordnance Corps continues to perform at a very high OPTEMPO, and your Personnel Development Office is no exception. Currently, we are working on several major initiatives for the Corps, but none more important than the Army's implementation of the **physical demands validation** and assessment directed under the 2015 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA).

The Ordnance School is currently revalidating the physical demand requirements for each of our 43 Ordnance AOCs/MOSs. This initiative supports the Army's implementation of the Occupational Physical Assessment Test (OPAT) on June 1st. In case you haven't heard, the OPAT will serve as the "Physical" equivalent to the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) and will be used to assess the physical potential of new recruits (enlisted and cadets) in order to match them with occupational specialties suited to their abilities. **Prospective recruits** will be evaluated during four OPAT events: seated power throw, standing long jump, deadlift, and aerobic interval run. Based on their scores, recruits will be placed into one of three physical demand tiers: *very heavy, heavy, and moderately heavy*. Every MOS will have a tier designation and will only be available to Soldiers who meet both the physical and mental requirements for that MOS.

Also beginning June 1st, **Advanced Individual Training (AIT) Soldiers** across the Army will be tested on the most physically demanding tasks within

"The OPAT will start recruits off on a path to success from the beginning of their military careers and it will contribute to making our Army stronger."

Major Gen. Anthony C. Funkhouser, U.S. Army Center for Initial Military Training

their MOS. Passing this physical demands test will be a graduation requirement. Soldiers will not be sent to their next assignment without passing this test. For example, all Wheeled Vehicle Mechanic (91B) students must be able to push/pull a 100 pound General Mechanic's Tool Kit (GMTK) for 25 feet, be able to lift/lower a 100 pound GMTK from a height of four feet and be able to carry (intermittently) a 100 pound GMTK for 25 feet.



A Wheeled Vehicle Mechanic (91B) prepares to lift a 100 pound General Mechanic's Tool Kit (GMTK).

Accurately assessing physical demands for each Ordnance AOC/MOS is crucial to optimizing the performance of our future Soldiers by matching recruits to careers where they have the greatest potential to succeed.

For more detail on enlisted MOS physical requirements, check out **chapter 10B** of the **DA PAM 611-21 (SmartBook)**. If you have additional questions, contact the Professional Development Office at the phone numbers listed on the **Ordnance Corps Website**.



On 8 Feb 16, U.S. Army TRADOC published the video "Explaining the new physical assessment test for recruits." Watch it to learn more about the OPAT.

LTC Michael McNeely
Chief, Personnel Development Office



EOD increases capabilities while reducing authorizations



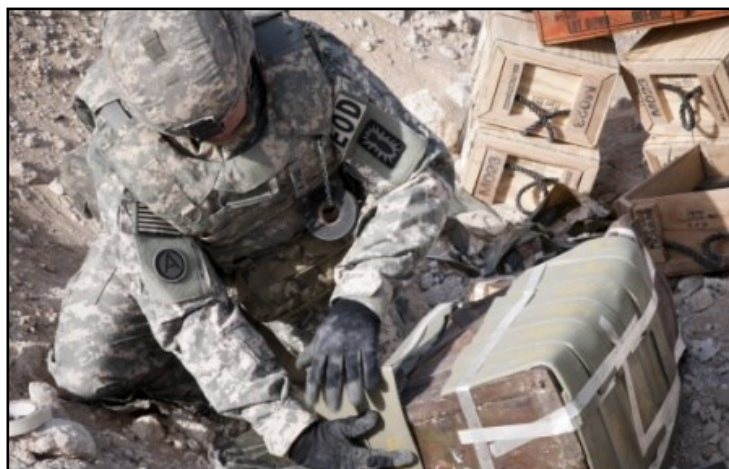
Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) was a key enabler during operations in Iraq and Afghanistan; however, EOD was no exception to the downsizing requirement when, in 2014,

Ordnance was directed to cut approximately one-third of its EOD authorizations.

The downsizing directive came at the same time that a Force Design Update (FDU) was capturing lessons learned from 13 years of conflict. The FDU identified a need for increased EOD capabilities in Battalion and Group structures, but the increase in capability requirements had to be addressed while reducing the overall EOD force structure. Meeting what *seemed* like opposing needs of the Army required a compromise. The result was an *increase* in EOD capabilities within *less robust formations* including a mostly un-resourced fourth platoon at the EOD companies. While the overall formations are smaller, the need for a fourth platoon was recognized by the Army and this will allow us to scale the size of EOD Companies when the operational requirement arises. Implementation of the new force structure will start in October of 2016.

It's important to remember that while the force is shrinking, EOD is not returning to the minimal authorizations of the legacy EOD Company. The community is well positioned to 1) meet current requirements and 2) increase personnel in the next growth cycle.

Since we are faced with fewer and smaller formations, optimizing the performance of our EOD technicians is more important than ever. We are addressing the need for realistic EOD training this year by revising the Advanced Team Leader Operators Course (ATLOC)

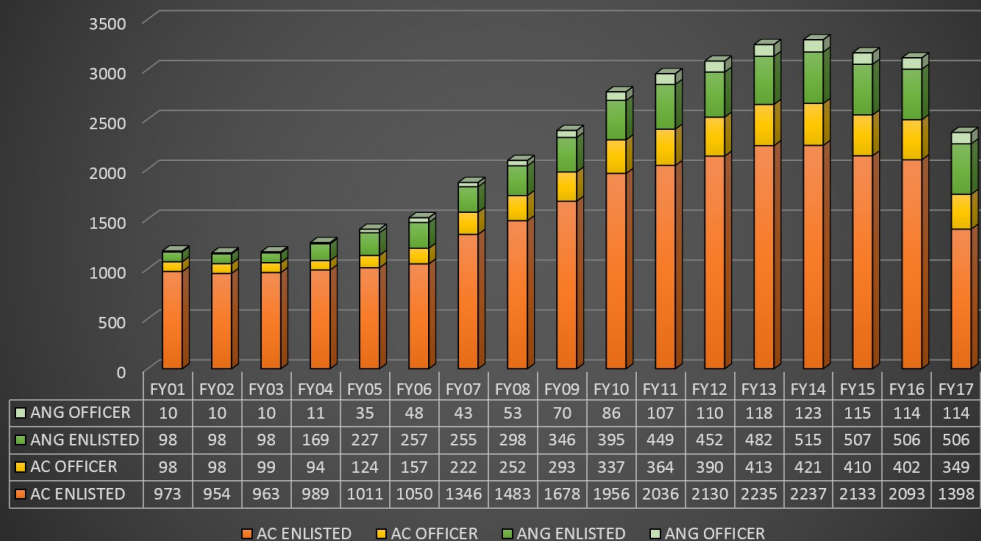


An Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technician prepares unexploded ordnance for controlled detonation.

and the Advanced Leader Course (ALC). The assessment of a new EOD focused Captains Career Course is another great stride toward delivering what the Combatant Commanders need: agile and adaptive EOD professionals!

LTC Wes Rhone
Director, TRADOC Capability Manager EOD

EOD Total Force Strength



This chart captures the increase in EOD Total Force Strength to meet demands of two wars and the surge in IED attacks. EOD authorizations grew annually beginning in 2004 until the peak was reached in 2014. While FY2017 authorizations are lower than previous years, it is still substantially higher than pre-war strength. Force end-strength will be similar to growth achieved in 2009.



Training prepares Ammo Specialists (89B) for QA/QC functions



The serviceability and reliability of ammunition and explosives are critical in support of our warfighters. The Ammunition Stockpile Reliability Program (ASRP), AR 702-6, provides Army policy on assuring serviceability of ammunition. One element of ASRP is

“Ammunition Surveillance.” Ammunition surveillance operations include visual inspection of Class V materiel from manufacture to the “foxhole.” Quality Assurance Specialist, Ammunition Surveillance (QASAS) are Army civilian employees that perform this function. **Since the availability of QASAS is limited, the Army revised the Advanced Leader Course (ALC) to include a block of instruction to train our 89Bs in Quality Assurance (QA) and Quality Control (QC) functions. Once trained these soldiers can supplement QASAS personnel in the performance of ammunition surveillance functions.**

The 89B QA/QC training is divided into segments that cover basic ammunition surveillance functions such as: hierarchy of regulations, ammunition suspension/restriction messages, types of surveillance inspections, usage of the Munitions History Program (MHP), propellant stability, explosives safety, and ammunition drawings. During the last two weeks of the course, students test what they learned in the classroom by performing actual inspections on training ammunition in a mock Ammunition Storage Point (ASP).

Once the 89Bs arrive at the training ASP they are presented with task-based surveillance scenarios. Inspections performed include damage in transit, storage monitoring, receipt and conveyance (MILVANS and vehicles) inspections (to name a few). Typically the scenarios include everything that the students could encounter at a typical ASP. The main focus of this training is performance of ammunition surveillance functions in the “field” environment, not at a major storage operation such as a munitions depot.

One inspection scenario that the students find challenging is a field receipt inspection of a fragmentation grenade (inert of course). The instructors “modified” the grenades to present real world defects that are encountered daily in our forward deployed environment. Nothing major - just missing safety pin, lot number removed, taped, upside down in the can, fuze loose, pins spread, safety clip missing, and more. Each student performs a receipt inspection on one fiber container with a fragmentation grenade. The student’s task is to determine the serviceability of the grenade by obtaining the inspection criteria and inspecting the grenade. When a grenade comes out of the fiber and the spoon flips off they realize they failed to identify a “critical” defect.

If you are interested in 89B QA/QC or explosives safety training please [email](#) the Defense Ammunition Center.

Mr. Lance Matthews
QASAS, Defense Ammunition Center



The mock Ammunition Supply Point (left) provides a safe but realistic training environment where students practice what they learn in the classroom before executing in the field (right).



Collective sustainment training open to all compos - One Army!



Are you up to the ultimate challenge for your sustainment organization? Come and train at the only training center whose primary focus is **Sustainment Training**. Since 1991, Camp Dodge, Iowa, has been the home of the Army National Guard's Sustainment Training Center (STC). The STC provides collective tactical and technical sustainment unit training and evaluations for units supporting unified land operations. **All three components: Active duty, Army Reserves and**

National Guard take advantage of the excellent training provided; an average of seventy units complete SCT rotations each year.

The STC challenges organizations at all levels. With input from the unit's Commander, and based off his or her initial mission-essential task list (METL) assessment, a unique training plan is developed for each training rotation. Soldiers strengthen individual technical skills through hands-on training using cutting edge equipment. And leaders learn how to effectively train their troops on specific MOS skills.

Realistic training scenarios are designed to test leadership as well as technical skills of the warfighter sustainer. Critical-thinking and problem-solving skills are challenged as leaders and Soldiers make on-the-spot decisions to complete the mission. Constant exposure to unforeseen obstacles builds individual performance and develops cohesive teams that can adapt to complex and changing environments.

Upon completion of training, commanders are provided an assessment of their unit's performance and units can return to home station and build on their success and work on areas of concern. To learn more about training opportunities, visit the [STC website](#) or contact STC Operations at (515) 727-3522.

MAJ William A. Thompson
Reserve Component Office, USAODS



The Sustainment Training Center provides collective training for sustainment military occupational specialties (MOS) regardless of compo. The photos above were captured at actual training exercises and show H8 Recovery operations (top), CMF 91 maintenance operations (middle), and CMF 91E welding (bottom).



**CHECK
OUT
THIS
VIDEO!**



American prototype M1917 6-ton tank



The **Tank Corps of the American Expeditionary Force** was established when the United States entered World War One in April 1917. This newly formed tank corps was initially outfitted with the French Renault FT17 tank with a plan to modify the basic design for an American version: the M1917 6-Ton Tank.

A prototype of the M1917 was produced to showcase the various improvements over the original French design. The M1917 featured angular armor to assist in deflection of projectiles and the turret was octagonal instead of round with small pistol ports positioned on each side. Additional vision slots were added, the idler wheels were steel

WORLD WAR I "IT WAS A WAR OF ORDNANCE!" - PART TWO -

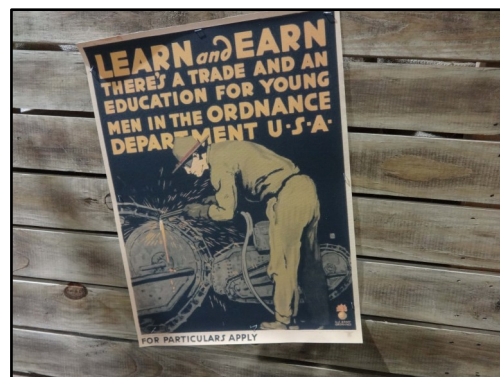
(not wood) and a metal bulkhead separated the engine compartment from the crew area.

The modified design replaced the Renault 39 horsepower engine with a Buda 4-cylinder 42 horsepower engine. An electric self-starter was added while the crank starter was retained as backup. Top speed was 5.5 mph over the road, fuel capacity was 30 gallons with a driving range of 30 miles.

This modified design had a .30 caliber Hotchkiss machine gun, but other weaponry available included a 37mm gun and a Marlin .30 caliber machine gun.

U.S. production of the M1917 tank began in October 1918 with 31 tanks completed before the end of the war. Ten of these tanks were sent to France, but they arrived too late to be used in combat.

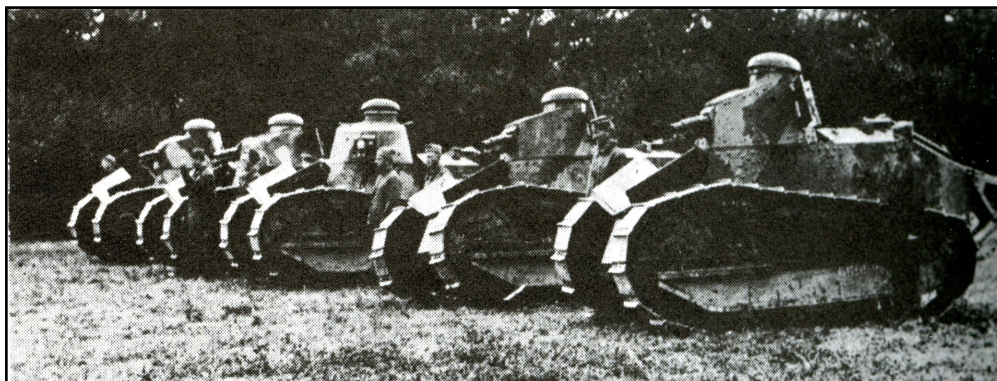
Mr. Jimmy H. Blankenship
Curator, OT&HC



World War I poster showing an Ordnance Soldier welding on an M1917 tank.



Above and below: the M1917 6-ton tank prototype displayed in the Hatcher Hall High Bay on the Ordnance Campus at Fort Lee, Virginia.



A line of M1917 6-ton tanks. Location unknown.





Ordnance Challenge: testing muscles, minds, and teamwork

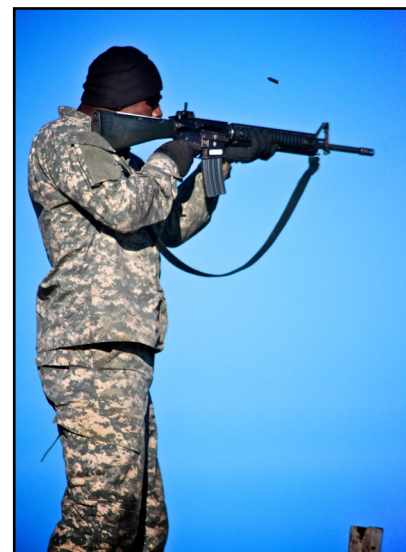
The Ordnance Challenge is a semi-annual competition intended to build esprit de corps and instill a sense of pride in the prestigious Ordnance Corps. It is comprised of events that test the strength and agility of **muscles, minds and teams** over a 1-mile course.

Physical demands test individual skills such as accuracy in the grenade throw or weapons firing events, but points are awarded to teams. Further, the challenge **tests bonds between team members** as they work together in events like the tire-drag, the high-crawl, or the lift-and-carry where teams are required to carry ammo cans and 100-pound 155mm Howitzer Rounds around a course a few hundred yards long!

Cognitive challenges are strategically placed along the course to **test mental agility**. This realistic training requires teams to work together to memorize information, solve puzzles, and take quizzes at the point of physical exhaustion. Pushing through the exhaustion is critical and arguably the toughest part of the challenge. Beads of sweat, grimaces, and heavy breathing throughout the event are evidence that this challenge is **not for the faint of heart - or mind!**

Bragging rights go to all who participate, and trophies are awarded to the best-finishing teams in three categories: Advanced Individual Trainee (AIT), Cadre, and Basic Officer Leadership Course (BOLC). “Where ever I go, I try to establish these different challenges for all levels of Soldiers – officers, noncommissioned officers, and warrant officers,” BG Ryan said. “We’re all at different levels of resiliency in life. I truly believe if we start young, and we challenge people in things that are physical and mental, we make a better Soldier in the process.”

The Army’s Human Dimension Strategy emphasizes the need for realistic training that develops cohesive teams of Army Professionals who can improve and thrive in ambiguous, complex, and challenging situations. Combining physical and



Ordnance Teams competed in various physical and mental challenges including: Ordnance Shoot (top), High-Crawl (left), Lift-and-Carry (below).



ORDNANCE AMAZING RACE April 16th @ Fort Lee, VA



mental challenges is one way of getting after ‘realistic’ training that develops **individual and team** performance. Resiliency, flexibility, and problem solving are critical traits for winning in a complex world. The next semi-annual Ordnance Challenge, coined the “Ordnance Amazing Race” (OAR), is tentatively scheduled for 16 April and is open to all Ordnance Soldiers, Officers, and civilians.

COL Jeffery Carter
Commander, 59th Ordnance Brigade

Who: All Ordnance Personnel
Teams of four sign up NLT: 01 APR 16
Register online at <http://tiny.cc/g6uq9x>





Seeking Ordnance Soldiers for Airborne School



The Ordnance Corps is seeking highly motivated Soldiers to volunteer for Airborne School. Are you seeking a unique and rewarding experience? Ever pictured yourself in a maroon, green or tan beret? If you are mentally and physically prepared to meet today's complex warfighting challenges as a Paratrooper in an elite and high-performing organization - then **Stand-up, Hook-up, and Shuffle to the door of your career counselor!**

It takes a warrior's dedication to be part of an Airborne Team. Not everyone will qualify, but those who join the illustrious ranks will earn an additional \$150 each month while on jump status. They also earn 65 points for promotion to SGT and 25 points for SSG.

Entrance Requirements:

- ♦ Less than 36 years of age on report date (or waiver)
- ♦ Physically qualify for parachute duty IAW AR 40-501, Hearing Conservation Program
- ♦ Achieve Army Physical Fitness Test standards for the 17-21 year age category
- ♦ Successfully execute the flexed arm hang for twenty seconds
- ♦ Obtain an Airborne physical examination that indicates acceptability for Airborne training
- ♦ Weigh a minimum of 110 lbs (in ACU's)

Ordnance Instructors authorized hazardous duty incentive pay (HDIP)



Effective 8 Dec 2015, Ammunition Specialist (89B) Instructors assigned to the Munitions & Explosive Ordnance Disposal Training Department (MEODTD), Fort Lee, Virginia, were authorized Hazardous Duty Incentive Pay (HDIP) by the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Manpower and Reserve Affairs).

Left: Instructor observes an MOS-T student who crimps a live blasting cap. Students are taught to set up and initiate live electric, live non-electric, or Modernized Demolition Initiator (MDI) firing systems. Students must also demonstrate the knowledge required to disassemble and destroy components of a semi-fixed round of artillery ammunition.



Reinvigorate maintenance operations with these videos



Learning Beyond the Classroom

Maintenance Terrain Walk



Two Level Maintenance



Ammo questions? We can help!

The U.S. Army Ordnance School's Reserve Component Office (RCO) is here to support your training mission. In fact, the RCO staff includes the senior 89 series NCO in the Army Guard Reserve (AGR) program whose reach-back capability includes all the **ammunition subject matter experts** assigned to the Combined Arms Support Command (CASCOW) and the Army Logistics University. If you need support on a topic related to ammo, reach out for help! Contact the Ordnance School's RCO office at (804) 765-7436 or by [email](#).

Try this virtual training app!

Check it out...

ASP App!



Run App

Download App

The Ammunition Supply Point Procedure Application is a virtual training environment. Avatars will guide you step-by-step through the following:

- ♦ Live Turn-In Procedures (pre-processing, processing, post-processing)
- ♦ Issue Procedures (upon unit arrival, ammo issue, before unit departure)
- ♦ Inventory Procedures (requirements, pre-inventory, inventory, discrepancies)